

# UCLA Faculty Association

News and opinion from Dan Mitchell since 2009

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Saturday, September 14, 2024

## Shifting Into Neutral: It's a Thing! - Part 2



We previously posted about Berkeley and the U of Minnesota recently deciding to go "neutral" with regard to political and world events. UCLA has now joined the list. Here is a listing of (some) others:

Claremont McKenna College  
University of North Carolina System  
Vanderbilt University  
University of Wyoming  
Columbia University  
Utah State University  
College of the Holy Cross  
Harvard University  
Syracuse University  
Stanford University  
Purdue University  
Clark University  
Johns Hopkins University  
Emerson College  
University of Southern California  
University of Texas System  
University of Colorado Boulder  
University of Alabama System  
Washington State University  
University of Pennsylvania  
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Source: <https://www.thefire.org/research-learn/adoptions-official-position-institutional-neutrality>.

Posted by California Policy Issues at [8:00 AM](#) No comments:

Labels: Claremont McKenna, Columbia, Harvard, Purdue, Stanford, Syracuse U, U of Alabama, U of North Carolina, U of Pennsylvania, U of Texas, USC, Vanderbilt U, Washington State U

Thursday, September 12, 2024

## Yale's Committee

### The Council of UC Faculty Associations

- Faculty File Historic Academic Freedom Unfair Labor Practice Charges Against UC
- Union Letter to UC with Benefits Demands
- We Oppose Deprofessionalizing Librarians
- We Oppose AB-1418's Inadequate Protection from the Harms of Facial Recognition Tech
- We Oppose SB-1287's Restrictions on Protected Speech

### Remaking the University

- [The Authoritarian Personality Comes to College](#) - 5/2/2024
- [The New McCarthyism Intensifies](#) - 4/30/2024
- [THE STRIKE](#) - 12/6/2022

### Higher Ed. News & Commentary

- [Chronicle of Higher Education](#)
- [Inside Higher Education](#)
- [Remaking the University](#)
- [Changing Universities](#)
- [California Professor](#)

### Search This Blog

### UC Faculty Associations

- [UCLA Faculty Association](#)
- [UCSB Faculty Association](#)
- [UCSC Faculty Association](#)
- [UCB Faculty Association](#)
- [Council of UC Faculty Associations](#)

### Other Faculty Organizations

- [American Association of University Professors](#)
- [California Faculty Association \(NEA\)](#)
- [UC-AFT](#)

### Topics

- [UC \(1853\)](#) [UC Regents \(1747\)](#) [politics \(1745\)](#) [health care \(1297\)](#) [State Budget \(1203\)](#) [governor \(1052\)](#) [UC budget crisis \(913\)](#) [UC-Berkeley \(845\)](#) [pension \(641\)](#) [diversity \(639\)](#) [pensions \(588\)](#) [tuition \(518\)](#) [admissions \(497\)](#) [athletics \(452\)](#) [CSU \(382\)](#) [transportation \(369\)](#) [UC-Davis \(356\)](#) [online education \(334\)](#) [ucrp \(294\)](#) [audio \(287\)](#) [UCOP \(284\)](#) [new hotel-conference center \(281\)](#) [uc retirement \(274\)](#) [UC enrollment \(272\)](#) [traffic \(264\)](#) [enrollment \(240\)](#) [UC-San Diego \(228\)](#) [community colleges \(225\)](#) [LAO](#)



*In my first few weeks as Yale's president, I have appreciated the chance to connect with so many of you. I am especially grateful to the hundreds of people who have responded to the webform I launched, and I look forward to hearing from many more of you in the coming months.*

*Although I am only beginning to gather your suggestions, one topic has emerged as top of mind for many people in our community: the question of when Yale, as an institution, speaks on issues of the day. This topic also has been central to a national discussion in higher education over the past year. Recognizing that members of our community hold multiple views, I write to announce that I have convened a committee to address the question.*

*I have asked the committee to examine when the university, or those speaking on its behalf, should comment on matters of public significance, weighing the value that Yale places on engaging with the wider world as well as the university's commitment to fostering an environment of diverse viewpoints and open dialogue and debate. To be clear, I am not charging the committee with revisiting the vital and robust protection for the free expression of individuals within our diverse community. Rather, the committee's focus is on the role of Yale itself as a speaker.*

*The committee is co-chaired by Michael Della Rocca, Sterling Professor of Philosophy, and Cristina Rodriguez, Leighton Homer Surbeck Professor of Law, and its members are listed below:*

- Charles Ahn, John C. Malone Professor of Applied Physics and Professor of Mechanical Engineering and of Physics
- Nita Ahuja, William H. Carmalt Professor of Surgery
- Kerwin Charles, Indra K. Nooyi Dean of the School of Management and Frederick W. Beinecke Professor of Economics, Policy, and Management
- Jennifer Herdt, Senior Associate Dean and Gilbert L. Stark Professor of Divinity and Professor of Religious Studies
- Stephen Pitti, Professor of History, of American Studies, and of Ethnicity, Race, and Migration; Director of the Center for the Study of Race, Indigeneity, and Transnational Migration

*The committee will host listening sessions over the next few weeks to solicit feedback from students, faculty, and staff. Information will be posted online. Community members who are not able to attend in person—including alumni—can share their perspectives via a webform, which will be open until the end of the last listening session.*

*The committee will provide its recommendations to me this semester. I encourage you to take the time to share your thoughts with the committee, and I hope you will continue to send your suggestions to me about the future of our university.*

Sincerely,

Maurie

Maurie McInnis

President

Professor of the History of Art

Source: <https://president.yale.edu/president/statements/committee-institutional-voice>.

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**There is an old joke about an incoming college president who was appointed after the previous incumbent left under a cloud. The new president finds three envelopes numbered 1, 2, and 3 on top of the presidential desk with a note from the predecessor. It says, "When you find yourself in difficulty, open these envelopes in numerical order." The new president puts the envelopes in a drawer, figuring they would never be needed. But after a short time, a problem arises, and the new president eventually opens envelope #1. Inside is a note that says, "Blame your predecessor." Sure enough, the advice works and the problem dies down. But after some time elapses, more difficulties arise and the new president opens envelope #2. Inside is a note that says, "Form a committee." Sure enough, a committee is formed and the difficulties fade. But after some time, yet another problem arises. The now not-so-new president opens up envelope #3. Inside is a note that says, "Take three envelopes and number them 1, 2, and 3..."**

Of course, this is just a made-up story that couldn't possibly apply to Yale.

Posted by California Policy Issues at 9:32 AM No comments: [Email](#) [Print](#) [M](#) [B](#) [T](#) [F](#) [P](#)

Labels: [Yale](#)

Didn't want to let this issue slide

We have been posting about the spreading idea of university neutrality. Yale has a different approach: form a committee to study the idea of neutrality. See below:

#### Committee on Institutional Voice

September 10, 2024

Dear Members of the Yale Community,

(205) [UC-Irvine](#) (173) [fund raising](#) (157) [UC-Santa Barbara](#) (141) [UC-Santa Cruz](#) (141) [UC-San Francisco](#) (133) [ballot propositions](#) (132) [faculty center](#) (132) [controller](#) (131) [UC-Riverside](#) (127) [CalPERS](#) (120) [Master Plan](#) (100) [UC-Merced](#) (100) [faculty pay](#) (100) [Yudof](#) (89) [UCRS retirement](#) (60) [parking](#) (59) [privatization](#) (59) [Faculty Association at UCLA](#) (56) [CalSTRS](#) (50) [UC Berkeley](#) (33) [campus climate survey](#) (28) [copyright](#) (26) [UCRS](#) (21) [Michigan Model](#) (18) [UC Merced](#) (17) [uc funding](#) (16) [State Contribution](#) (14) [UCOF](#) (14) [Regents](#) (13) [faculty recruitment](#) (12) [UC pay](#) (7) [graduate education](#) (6) [UC San Diego](#) (5) [UCpolitics](#) (3) [teaching evaluation](#) (3) [UC Irvine](#) (2) [UC Santa Cruz](#) (2)

#### Blog Archive

▼ 2024 (616)

▼ September (62)

[Some UC Retirement Programs for October](#)

[Watch the Regents meetings of Sept. 19, 2024](#)

[Community College DEI Case Dismissed](#)

[Doing the math matters](#)

[Transfers](#)

[Possible VP Jam](#)

[Revert!](#)

[One](#)

[Davis Berries](#)

[Schedule Changes](#)

[Does UCLA have a plan? - Part 3 \(follow up\)](#)

[#Take Us Out of the Ball Game# - Part 2](#)

[Two Months of Cash](#)

[The Recent Town Hall With the Interim Chancellor](#)

[Watch the Sept. 18, 2024 Meetings of the Regents](#)

[Yet More Not OK from UCSF](#)

[The FAFSA Drama Continues - Part 16](#)

[DACA Decline/Bill Veto](#)

[We continue to wonder...](#)

[Reminder to Academic Senate members: Sept. 24th To...](#)

[Does anyone have any idea what this means?](#)

[Whoa! Did he just say what I thought he said?](#)

[It's so great to be recognized!](#)

[Registration](#)

[Spring Repercussions](#)

[Things to Come?](#)

[Everybody's Doing It](#)

[Antitrust Suit Against Journal Publishers](#)

[Something for the Regents](#)

[Repercussions of Not OK](#)

[Rising Toward Parity](#)

[In case you were wondering, or even if you weren't...](#)

[Retirement Information Programs](#)

[Medicare Advantage Scrutiny Continues - Part 4 \(an...](#)

[The \(Seemingly\) Endless Story - Part 2](#)

[Satanic Mills \(of the term paper variety\)](#)

[Adverse Internet Archive Appellate Decision](#)

[Need for a New Master Plan - Once Again - Part 3](#)



As blog readers will know, UCLA bought a defunct Catholic college campus in Palos Verdes for \$80 million not so long ago. And we've been reading a lot about Palos Verdes and its ground instabilities recently. So we're just raising the obvious question that nobody seems to be asking.

Posted by California Policy Issues at 6:00 AM No comments: [Email](#) [Edit](#) [M](#) [B](#) [T](#) [F](#) [P](#)

Labels: [UCLA](#)

Wednesday, September 11, 2024

## Numbers & Ratios - We Report; You Decide



Symbols T = Total

U = Undergraduate

G = Graduate

FT = Full Time

PT = Part Time

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**UCLA**                    **USC**

=====

**Numbers**

Enrollment	Enrollment
48,048 T	47,000 T
33,040 U	21,000 U
15,008 G	26,000 G

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Faculty	Faculty
2,135 FT	4,767 FT
453 PT	2,080 PT
2,588 T	6,847 T

=====

Employees	
54,148 T	23,227 T

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**Ratios**

UCLA can be as neutral as the rest of them

Shifting Into Neutral: It's a Thing! - Part 2

Yale's Committee

Didn't want to let this issue slide

Numbers & Ratios - We Report; You Decide

9-11-01 at UCLA

Shifting Into Neutral: It's a Thing!

The times they are a'changing - Part 6

Take Us Out of the Ball Game!

Water with the Guy

Upcoming Regents Agenda: Sept. 18-19, 2024

Updated Subway Construction

Unclear - Part 2

Berkeley Chancellor Interview: Institutional Neutr...

Well, I'm sure I could write something...

What will the fall rules be? - Part 2 (Now we know)

The Great Santa Cruz Panic of '24

The Senate Wants to Be In (or maybe near) the Room...

Regents Special Retreat: Wednesday-Thursday

TMT in Hawaii in the Past Tense?

Some UC-Retirement Programs for September

Bus Stop

Burnout

Artwork for Westwood/V/A Subway Station

► August (65)

► July (64)

► June (72)

► May (87)

► April (63)

► March (66)

► February (68)

► January (69)

► 2023 (828)

► 2022 (719)

► 2021 (710)

► 2020 (914)

► 2019 (671)

► 2018 (595)

► 2017 (666)

► 2016 (715)

► 2015 (765)

► 2014 (704)

► 2013 (776)

► 2012 (839)

► 2011 (738)

► 2010 (431)

► 2009 (12)

### Contributors

- California Policy Issues

- Toby Higbie

- UCLA Faculty Association

FT Faculty/	FT Faculty/
T Faculty	T Faculty
82%	70%
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FT Faculty/	FT Faculty/
T Employment	T Employment
4%	21%
-----	-----
T Faculty/	T Faculty/
T Employees	T Employees
5%	29%
-----	-----
Students/Faculty	Students/Faculty
23 T/FT	10 T/FT
19 T/T	7 T/T
-----	-----
Employees/	Employees/
Student	Student
1.13	0.49
=====	=====

Source: LA Business Journal, Sept. 2, 2024.

Posted by California Policy Issues at 6:00 AM No comments: [Email](#) [Edit](#) [M](#) [B](#) [T](#) [F](#) [P](#)  
Labels: [UCLA](#), [USC](#)

## 9-11-01 at UCLA



UCLA students watch TV coverage of attacks on Sept. 11, 2001 in Ackerman Union.

Posted by California Policy Issues at 5:30 AM No comments: [Email](#) [Edit](#) [M](#) [B](#) [T](#) [F](#) [P](#)  
Labels: [miscellaneous](#), [UCLA](#)

Tuesday, September 10, 2024

Shifting Into Neutral: It's a Thing!



Last Friday, we posted about Berkeley's new chancellor deciding to be neutral about non-university events.\* It's in fact a thing that's going around among university leaders throughout the country. From the **University of Minnesota**:

Office of the President

Dear students, faculty, and staff,

As we embark on an exciting fall semester—my first here at the University of Minnesota—my energy and enthusiasm for what we can accomplish together grows by the minute.

I am writing to you today to help set expectations for when the University community should expect to hear—and not hear—from me. University presidents around the country are often called on to issue public statements in response to a wide range of global issues—from natural disasters and armed conflicts overseas, to international health outbreaks and political elections. Like many of you, I have strong personal feelings and opinions on many of these issues, and a deep sense of empathy for those, near and far, who suffer as a result of these events.

But it is important to separate my personal reactions, however deeply felt, from my role as President. As President, I am fundamentally committed to cultivating an environment where diverse perspectives are fully embraced and where dialogue across our differences—with vibrant civic engagement—is encouraged. That is core to the University's mission of research, education and outreach. A statement from the President, however careful, can have the effect of excluding those who disagree and inhibiting dialogue.

For that reason, I will refrain from commenting publicly on the vast majority of global issues, unless they are directly tied to the University of Minnesota's mission, its work, and its identity. There are separate discussions taking place collaboratively with shared governance across our University about departmental and unit statements, and you will hear more about those in the coming months. Rest assured that your individual rights to free speech are respected and guaranteed, as are the principles of academic freedom.

Today, I want to focus on my role as President.

As President, the way I can best support our community as we grapple with complex challenges and tensions is by helping you tap the deep wells of knowledge, expertise, creativity, and energy existing across our campuses. Working with our faculty, administration, students, and the broader community, I will support forums where you can engage in unfettered inquiry. I will also work intensely to protect your physical and psychological safety, health and wellness. In an environment of viewpoint diversity, these are my highest priorities.

I understand some members of our University community will disagree with my position, and I respect that. I will strive to uphold open lines of communication on important issues that directly impact our mission. When there are critical updates regarding University operations, you will hear from me. And when there are opportunities to celebrate our shared accomplishments, you will most definitely hear from me.

I look forward to working with you to leverage the power of open and free inquiry so that we can push the boundaries of research and scholarship, transform learning and teaching, and strengthen our public engagement for the betterment of society.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Cunningham  
President

This email was sent to all systemwide students, faculty, and staff by the Office of the President, 100 Church St S.E., Minneapolis, MN, 55455, USA.

**Source:** <https://view.ecommunications2.umn.edu/?vawpToken=EC24USJZ3JIEFHXFD6LOZPWF5I.60244>.

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\*<https://uclafacultyassociation.blogspot.com/2024/09/berkeley-chancellor-interview.html>.

Posted by California Policy Issues at 6:00 AM [No comments:](#)         
Labels: [U of Minnesota](#), [UC-Berkeley](#)

## The times they are a'changing - Part 6



We noted on Sunday that the Special Committee on Athletics of the Regents is due to discuss the antitrust case that involves pay to student athletes. It appears they will have more to discuss, albeit behind closed doors. From [Inside Higher Ed](#):

*The federal judge overseeing the historic antitrust lawsuit governing the compensation of college athletes*

*told lawyers to go "back to the drawing board" in their efforts to settle the case, saying that a nearly \$2.8 billion settlement tentatively reached this summer would unfairly limit what athletes could receive from groups of sports boosters.*

*Judge Claudia Wilken, who is presiding over the House v. NCAA case as she has over numerous other lawsuits involving college athlete compensation, made her comments at a hearing last week to consider the proposed settlement struck this summer by lawyers for the National Collegiate Athletic Association and for the various groups of athletes who have sued the sports governing body over rights to their names, images and likenesses...*

Full story at <https://www.insidehighered.com/news/quick-takes/2024/09/09/judge-challenges-terms-proposed-settlement-athlete-pay>.

Posted by California Policy Issues at 5:30 AM [No comments:](#)         
Labels: [athletics](#), [UC Regents](#)

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